United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Name of Assigned Judge or Magistrate Judge			lton I. Shadur	Sitting Judge if Other than Assigned Judge						
CASE NUMBER 03			03 C 1575	DATE	4/16/2	2003				
CASE TITLE			Salvador	Salvador Garcia, etc. vs. City of Chicago						
MOTION: [In the following box (of the motion being properties of the motion being properties		box (a) indicate the party filing the ing presented.]	a) indicate the party filing the motion, e.g., plaintiff, defendant, 3rd party plaintiff, and (b) state briefly the nature esented.]							
DOCKET ENTRY:										
(1)	□ Fi	Filed motion of [use listing in "Motion" box above.]								
(2)	□ Br	Brief in support of motion due								
(3)	□ At	Answer brief to motion due Reply to answer brief due								
(4)	□ Ru	Ruling/Hearing on set for at								
(5)	□ Sta	Status hearing[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on set for at								
(6)	□ Pr	Pretrial conference[held/continued to] [set for/re-set for] on set for at								
(7)	□ Tr	Trial[set for/re-set for] on at								
(8)	□ [B	[Bench/Jury trial] [Hearing] held/continued to at								
(9)		This case is dismissed [with/without] prejudice and without costs[by/agreement/pursuant to] □ FRCP4(m) □ Local Rule 41.1 □ FRCP41(a)(1) □ FRCP41(a)(2).								
(10)	[Other docket entry] Enter Memorandum Order. Accordingly this action will proceed solely as an individual lawsuit by Garcia on his own behalf. Complaint ¶13 through 20, the allegations of Complaint ¶24 and 29 as to class members and the portion of the Complaint's prayers for relief having to do with class members are stricken. And of course the prayer for an order certifying the class is denied as to each of the two counts in the Complaint.									
(11)	I [F	or further detail se	e order attached to the origi	nal minute order.]		, ,				
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

SALV	ADOR GARCIA, et	cc., et al.,)			
		Plaintiffs,)			
	v.)	No.	03 C 1575	
CITY	OF CHICAGO,)			DOCKETED
		Defendant.)	AF	APR 1 7 2003	

MEMORANDUM ORDER

City of Chicago ("City") has filed its Answer and

Affirmative Defenses ("ADs") to the Complaint brought against it

by Salvador Garcia ("Garcia") through his next friend Nancy

Garcia. This memorandum order is issued sua sponte to address,

in light of a recent development identified in City's responsive

pleading, only the putative class allegations that have been

included in Garcia's Complaint.

In material part Garcia has advanced a facial challenge to Chicago Municipal Code §8-8-070 (the "Ordinance"), pursuant to which Garcia (who was acting with two others) was charged and taken into custody for assertedly making gang signs, shouting gang slogans at passing vehicles and pedestrians and engaging in threatening behavior (one of Garcia's associates assertedly removed a handgun from his back pocket in the course of that activity). Garcia's arrest and charge form the gravamen of the class allegations found at Complaint ¶¶13-20. But importantly in that respect, Answer ¶17 and AD 2 state that as of March 27, 2003

the Chicago Police Department instructed all officers that the Ordinance was no longer to be enforced.

That of course moots any facial attack on the Ordinance for future purposes.¹ Even more critically, the already problematic issue of Garcia's ability to satisfy the typicality precondition to class certification under Fed. R. Civ. P. ("Rule") 23(a)(3) has plainly hardened into a certainty that Rule 23(b)(3) cannot be satisfied. With the issue having reduced itself to the potential for the putative class members' recovery of damages for past enforcement of the Ordinance (that potential assumes for present purposes that the attack on its constitutionality would prove successful), there is no question that the individualized determinations of liability and damages of the different plaintiffs would strongly predominate over the question of constitutionality that would be common to putative class members.

Accordingly this action will proceed solely as an individual lawsuit by Garcia on his own behalf. Complaint ¶¶13 through 20, the allegations of Complaint ¶¶24 and 29 as to class members and the portion of the Complaint's prayers for relief having to do with class members are stricken. And of course the prayer for an

This Court recognizes that governmental officials cannot bind their successors in the absence of some formal action that would bar any future change of heart. Accordingly this memorandum order is being issued in the expectation that City's Corporation Counsel will promptly take the necessary steps to bring a proposal for formal repeal of the Ordinance before the City Council.

order certifying the class is denied as to each of the two counts in the Complaint.

Milton I. Shadur

Senior United States District Judge

Date: April 16, 2003